

# T.N. Magazines Still Exploding; New York Shaken Hard At Noon

**Flames Threaten Two Other Big Munition Plants—Perth Amboy and South Amboy Placed Under Martial Law—Inhabitants Leave Those Places By Thousands—Known Dead Number Fourteen—Many Tales of Heroism.**

New York, Oct. 5.—The city again was shaken at noon by another series of terrific explosions.

Perth Amboy, Oct. 5.—At 11 o'clock today flames and sparks from the T. A. Gillespie shell loading plant were threatening two other big munition plants known as the Oliver and California plants. Hundreds of soldiers, sailors, Gillespie employees and civilian volunteers were endeavoring to avert an even greater disaster.

As a measure of precaution the authorities ordered the evacuation of all towns within a ten mile radius of Morgan.

Persons in a party of fifteen refugees arriving at one of the towns said that before the first explosion occurred last night they saw an airplane hovering over the Gillespie plant.

Perth Amboy and South Amboy saloons are closed and the towns virtually are under martial control. State guardsmen, United States coast guards and a battery of field artillery are doing guard duty.

Occasional shell explosions occurred this forenoon two miles away from the Gillespie plant. The people of Perth Amboy, momentarily expecting further explosions from T. N. T. magazines, were leaving that city by the thousands. South Amboy is devastated and deserted.

The magazines which are buried in the Creek contain a seven day supply of T. N. T.

The known dead number fourteen, their bodies having been recovered.

Parties of exhausted men have been struggling into the Jersey villages all night with appeals for coats for burned and mutilated employees and firemen at Morgan.

Out of all the confusion came stories of heroism and disregard of danger. A trainload of explosives lay on a siding near the Gillespie plant. A railroad fireman, his identity not yet known, jumped to the engine's post on a locomotive, backed the engine and coupled it to the train and took the cars out of the danger zone. As his task was completed a shell struck him and he was killed. In contrast with the thousands of townspeople who fled, the wives and other relatives of employees hurried into the vicinity of the Gillespie plant and became frantic upon learning that hundreds might have been killed. Throughout the night these persons refused to leave the scene and were kept away from the fire swept ruins only by the military guards.

Of the company's 2,000 night shift employees, only 101 had been definitely accounted for. The first detonations shook Morgan and surrounding territory as far as New York city, where the shock rocked houses and shattered windows in the business districts.

Whether the 1,900 unaccounted for were dead or merely had fled, it was impossible to determine. Firemen were fighting the flames, and scattered shells were exploding, and all energies were devoted to averting a worse disaster. Thousands of people had hurried away from Morgan and surrounding towns during the night, leaving many communities today virtually without populations, and it was considered probable that with these went many of the Gillespie employees as yet unaccounted for.

Another terrific explosion of a T. A. T. magazine occurred at 10:09 a. m. Buildings rocked in Perth Amboy.

Military guards were thrown around the plant. The injured are being cared for in public buildings and at private homes, scores of whom were seriously hurt were taken to hospitals at Elizabeth, Rahway and other towns.

While big explosions were occurring Vice President Yates, of the Gillespie Co., gave out the following statement:

"We cannot conceive how it can last much longer. The large magazines of T. N. T. are buried in a leak of the Chesapeake creek and we feel safe."

There were explosions followed by fire, which lasted all night, and destroyed a number of the buildings of the great shell-loading plant of A. A. Gillespie & Co., at Morgan, near here, with the loss of lives of workmen. Various estimates at from 25 to 100, continued at frequent intervals during the early morning hours, culminating at 4 a. m. with a terrific blast, which blew one of the few remaining magazines to dust. Large quantities of trinitrofluorotoluene (T. N. T.)—one of the most powerful explosives known, had been stored in this magazine. The force of the explosion rocked the surrounding country like an earthquake, wrecked light buildings, shattered thousands of window panes and caused a panic among residents in a score of towns.

South Amboy, five miles away, felt the greatest force of the explosion and the military guard there ordered everyone to leave the town as a precaution. The residents, many of whom had been in terror throughout the night, did not need formal urging, and the roads to Perth Amboy and other towns were packed with people, all hurrying to escape the danger zone. Earlier in the evening powerful shells of various calibers, destined for use by the Allied armies, had been hurled through the town. Various units of the New Jersey State Guard were called upon to protect the homes of people who had fled.

Until dawn today firemen, guardsmen and rescue parties were unable to approach the ruins of the plant and search for bodies of the victims on account of the ever-present danger of exploding shells and ammunition.

It was said that more than 2,000 men composed the night shift. Estimates of the loss of life ranged from 25 to 100 and upwards.

Nine bodies were recovered and sent to the morgue at South Amboy.

## Rejected As Soldier Harper Killed Self

Despondent, because rejected for service with the Canadian army, for deafness, Herbert Harper, 33, of 104 Bell street, committed suicide early this morning by closing the door and windows of his room and turning on the gas.

His body was found by his mother at 9:10 a. m. She called the ambulance. Dr. J. F. Keegan discovered that the man had been dead fully several hours.

Harper on June 10 last, cut a deep gash in his throat with a razor. Harper worked at the plant of the Automatic Machine company, where he became the object of much jesting.

## SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC PLACES WILL NOT CLOSE

Hartford, Oct. 5.—In its current campaign to check the epidemic of Spanish influenza, the state department of health does not advocate the closing of either schools or theatres. Instead, it is asking teachers to observe the school children closely and to send home and report all those showing influenza symptoms. Theatre managers are being informed that they must carry out certain orders of the health department. If they do so, theaters will not be closed. In manufacturing centers containing large numbers of tenement houses, representatives of local health departments are being sent to the factories to give one-minute talks on influenza prevention to the employees.

The instructions of the state department of health to the school authorities direct the latter to ask teachers to send home any child exhibiting any symptoms of influenza, and to send the child's name and address to either the school inspector or the health officer. The brothers and sisters of such a child will be kept in school, Dr. Frank T. Black, secretary of the state department of health, saying that in an epidemic of this kind, the children are infected when the schools are kept than when they are closed.

"When schools are closed, children are apt to play together at all hours of the day, whereas when they are in school there is a certain amount of isolation, and while the ventilation of school rooms is properly supervised, pupils are far better off than at home," said Dr. Black.

## PLAY A GAME OF WITS IN FRANCE

With the American armies in France, Oct. 5.—There is a battle of wits as well as of guns along the American front in the mountainous Lorraine country near the southeastern end of the western front. Germans try to deceive the American intelligence officers by moving their machine-guns and batteries to a new position every night.

The Americans solved this problem by using a series of tracing maps which may be made daily and superimposed upon one another. When these are compared, the various points to which the guns have been moved are indicated. Then comes the opportunity for the American artillery to do work upon them.

This system has proved very valuable in locating the heavy batteries behind the German lines.

## U. S. STEAMER SAN SABA SUNK

Washington, Oct. 5.—The American cargo steamer San Saba, of the Mallory Line, was sunk yesterday 15 miles southeast of Barataria, N. J., the navy department was informed today. It is supposed the ship struck a mine. How many of the crew were rescued is not yet known.

A steamer proceeding to New York reported that she picked up four men and one dead body from the wreckage. Naval vessels were immediately sent to the scene to search for possible survivors and to sweep the vicinity for mines. The San Saba was of 2,455 gross tons.

## CURTAIN TRADE TO GET SHIPS

Washington, Oct. 5.—Restriction of imports from South and Central America will increase from now on until December, and perhaps later. This will apply more to countries on the eastern coast than to those on the Pacific, as the cause is the need of the War Department for troops.

To secure more vessels for this purpose was one of the objects of Secretary Baker's present trip to England.

The curtailment of imports will fall mostly on Argentina, from which country a vast quantity of wheat up to the marketing of our own great crop has now been given way to leather and some linseed. The last two commodities will first feel the restriction, although all will be treated as the carrying out of the war program demands.

Beyond the taking of more ships for troops there will be no effect on exports.

## GROENER SUCCEEDS VON STEIN

Basle, Switzerland, Oct. 5.—General Groener has been appointed to succeed General von Stein, resigned, as Prussian Minister of War, the Straßburg Post says.

General von Stein was reported to have resigned in advice received in London, Sept. 27, from Copenhagen. He had been Prussian War Minister since October, 1916.

## WILSON FOR MEDIATOR

Peking, Wednesday, Oct. 5.—(By the Associated Press)—The suggestion that President Wilson be invited to mediate between North and South China is made by a Peking newspaper. "America having invited China to follow its example in fighting against the Central Powers."

Eight Peking newspapers were suppressed yesterday and the operations of a news agency suspended for publishing reports concerning new Japanese loans.

## 1,850,000 U. S. TROOPS CONVOYED SAFELY OVERSEAS

Embarkation Continues At Rate of More Than 250,000 Per Month.

## EPIDEMIC HAS NOT PROVED HINDRANCE

American Advance Threatens German Communication Line.

Washington, Oct. 6.—Despite the epidemic of Spanish influenza embarkation of American troops is being continued at the rate of more than 250,000 per month. General March announced today. The total embarkation to date now has passed the 1,850,000 mark. The September shipments exceeded 250,000 although cases of influenza in camps at home exceeded 100,000.

The policy of the War Department in sending overseas only men who have not had the disease and who have not been exposed to it has necessitated material readjustments of the shipping schedule but has not interfered with the total number embarked.

The American advance northwest of Verdun threatens the greatest single line of communication between Germany and the west front. General March said today, and General Pershing's forces now have reached a point within 18 miles of this great artery.

The progress of Pershing's forces caused the German general staff to throw into this sector many divisions of reinforcements, the chief of staff said, but despite this the Americans not only have maintained the positions won, but have pushed forward until they now face the German line of defense.

Summarizing the news for the past week as excellent, General March said offensives conducted by the Allies on three major sectors had resulted in a forward movement of the battle front for virtually the entire stretch from the North sea to Verdun. General Gouraud's army west of Argonne forest has fought forward to a point where it also threatens German communication lines.

The British drive on Cambrai and St. Quentin which was aided by the 27th New York troops and 30th (Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, the District of Columbia troops) American divisions, developed into a battle for the entire Hindenburg line. The British, General March said, have broken entirely across to enemy's zone of defense, making breaches in the line which were closed by the Germans only with great difficulty.

In Flanders the drive of the Allies has reconquered seventy-five square miles of Belgian territory and has formed a semi-circular salient ten miles deep. Ostend and Zeebrugge, German submarine bases, are so threatened that it is reported their evacuation has begun. The British are within five miles of Lille.

Referring to the Balkan situation, General March said the Italian advance in Albania is closely following the Austrian army, retiring along the coast. He added that the recent attack upon Durazzo, behind the Austrian front, was extremely important in connection with the Allied strategy.

American troops at Archangel are commanded by Col. George E. Stewart and include the 33rd Infantry, part of the 210th Engineers, (both Michigan and East Wisconsin troops), and the necessary hospital and medical units.

## WALTER GODDARD FILES DAMAGE SUIT FOR \$1,500

The Connecticut Company is named defendant in a suit of \$1,500 damages filed in the superior court today by Walter Goddard, of Stratford. Papers in the action state that on Dec. 14, 1917, Goddard stopped his automobile at the corner of East Main street and Stratford avenue in order to adjust a tire on the rear wheel of his machine. A trolley is alleged to have approached, and without signaling, collided with the car.

Goddard claims that the collision was caused through the recklessness and negligence of the motorman, and as a result he was severely injured, and the radiator of his car was damaged beyond repair.

## Senator Hall's Widow Died Today

Hartford, Conn., Oct. 5.—Mrs. Sarah G. Hall, widow of Senator John H. Hall, died at her home here early today. She had been ill nearly five months.

She was born in New York city January 8, 1849, a daughter of William H. and Elizabeth L. Loines. Her marriage to Mr. Hall occurred in 1870 and they lived in Portland, where Mr. Hall had extensive business interests until they removed to Hartford, Mr. Hall becoming vice president and general manager and later president of the Colts Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing company in 1902.

Mrs. Hall was a member of numerous local and state organizations, including the D. A. R., Colonial Dames, and the Civic club.

## Bridgeport Has Two More Who Fear War

Philip Seliger Johnson, 226 Colorado avenue, orchestra leader, from Denmark, and Frank Paulsen, 44 Lee avenue, a carpenter also from Denmark, notified Draft Board 2, that they will withdraw their declaration of intention to become United States citizens. They had taken their first papers.

## Alien Forever Barred American Citizenship

Carl S. Frederickson, 872 Hancock avenue, is forever barred under Federal law, from the privileges of American citizenship. He sent notice to Draft Board No. 2 that he has renounced his intention of becoming an American, declared in his first papers. Judge John S. Pullman informed Washington of the occurrence.

## HEALTH OFFICIAL CALLS ON MEDICAL AID FOR STATE

Hartford, Oct. 5.—All doctors and nurses who are in a position to render their services wherever in the state they may be most needed during the influenza epidemic, were urged today by Dr. John T. Black, secretary of the state department of health, to send their names to that department. Doctors and nurses called upon will be given compensation and all expenses. Dr. Black said there was a great need in Connecticut of doctors and nurses.

"The epidemic reaches its height and sweeps over the state from east to west, pneumonia and deaths increase in number, and in certain communities and shortage of physicians and nurses is greatly felt," Dr. Black declared. "The department of health earnestly urges upon all physicians and nurses not to leave the state, but to remain where they are in readiness for a call. No doctor or nurse should neglect the opportunity to render his or her very real bit by thinking that there is someone else to bear the burden. Personal risk incidental to attending cases of influenza can be avoided by wearing a mask."

"There is little doubt that in the average theatre, providing close attention is paid to the ventilation of the house, and providing our rules are observed, the danger to people collecting for entertainment is far less than in the case of those who crowd into poorly ventilated cars. Dr. Black said when a health department representative, in their talks to factory employees, will point out that influenza itself is not a dangerous disease unless complicated by pneumonia. They will show that pneumonia is apt to develop when the patient fails to go to bed as soon as he feels sick, and that the way to avoid influenza is to get plenty of fresh air and sunshine, avoid crowds and sick people, and walk instead of ride to and from work."

## WAR OBSTRUCTION BY REPUBLICANS PROVED

Record of Votes in Congress Shows Opposition to Essential War Measures.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 5.—Chairman Scott Ferris, of the Democratic Congressional committee, made public a voting record on important war and pre-war legislation. This record shows that Republican opposition has been in evidence on every great measure now enacted into law, and it is on this record that the Democrats are asking the return of the President and the Administration is the necessity seen in the following voting record:

War Resolution—32 Republican and 16 Democratic Representatives opposed. A Republican and 3 Democratic Senators opposed.

McLure Resolution (warning Americans off the high seas)—103 Republican Representatives and 32 Democratic Representatives voted against tabling this resolution.

Gore Resolution (similar to McLure resolution)—12 Republican Senators and 2 Democratic voted against tabling this resolution.

Armed Neutrality Bill (authorizing arming of American ships for defense against submarines)—On the Cooper amendment to prevent the arming of American ships carrying war supplies, 76 Republican Representatives and 47 Democrats voted for the amendment.

Armor Plate Plant Amendment to Naval Bill—133 Republican and 2 Democratic Representatives opposed, while in the Senate 23 Republicans and no Democrats voted against it. This bill has kept the price of steel to the Navy at a reasonable figure.

Shipping Board Bill—169 Republican Representatives and 1 Democrat, and 21 Republican Senators and no Democrats, opposed this measure, which was held up almost two years by the opposition.

Expionage Act—97 Republican and 9 Democratic Representatives opposed; 5 Republican and 1 Democratic Senator opposed.

Food Survey Bill—65 Republican Representatives and 16 Democrats voted to send the bill back to committee, in an effort to kill it.

Railroad Control Bill—Four Republican and two Democratic Senators opposed it in the House, while in the Senate 13 Republicans and 1 Democrat favored the Townsend amendment, which sought to block the administration measure.

Telegraph and Telephone Control Bill—Four Republican Representatives opposed it, as did 16 Republican Senators. There was no Democratic opposition.

War Revenue Bill, Fiscal Year 1916—142 Republican Representatives and 16 Republican Senators opposed. There was no Democratic opposition.

War Revenue Bill, Fiscal Year 1917—192 Republican Representatives and 33 Republican Senators opposed. There was no Democratic opposition.

War Revenue Bill, Fiscal Year 1918—76 Republican Representatives and 4 Republican Senators opposed. There was no Democratic opposition.

## TAKE BIG LOAN SHARE

San Juan, Puerto Rico, Oct. 5.—Representatives of 22 sugar companies in Puerto Rico have passed a resolution agreeing to subscribe to the Fourth Liberty Loan on the basis of \$2 a ton of sugar produced during the last season. This subscription will assure approximately one-third of Puerto Rico's sugar needs.

## DANGER SOLDIER VOTE MAY BE VOID BY ACTS OF PERRY AND HEALEY

Republican Candidates Want to Leave Citizen's Ticket, Though Endorsed—Wilson, Bridgeport Candidate, is Also Leaving—Upstate Machine Insists on Withdrawals.

Hartford, Conn., Oct. 5.—The Secretary of State received today a letter from Lieut. Governor Clifford B. Wilson in which he requests his name to be withdrawn from the Citizens' ticket on which it had been placed as the candidate for lieutenant governor. Mr. Wilson was renominated by the Republicans for the office. In his letter to the Secretary, Lieut. Governor Wilson says that he sent a letter some time ago to the secretary of the Citizens' party withdrawing his name from its ticket and he supposed that was sufficient. The withdrawal will be accepted by the Secretary of State.

Whether or not Secretary of State Frederick L. Perry will decide that he has a legal right to accept the resignation of Candidate Frederick L. Perry from the place on the Citizens' ticket to which he was nominated by that newly organized political party, last June; whether, as a matter of fact, he has the authority to decide a matter involving his own interests; and whether, in tendering his resignation, he was actuated by his own desires or by the will of the dominating Republican State Central Committee, are questions in which Connecticut people of all political persuasions are evincing no small amount of interest, of late.

Ever since it became known publicly that Perry and Frank E. Healey, candidate for attorney-general, had requested that their names be withdrawn from the Citizens' ticket, there has been wide speculation as to the reason for their doing so, and the only conclusion that close observers have been able to arrive at is that the pair were ordered by the Republican bosses of the state, under threat of reprisal, to take that exceedingly dangerous step.

It is pointed out that Perry and Healey announced their desires almost immediately after a meeting of the Republican committee, Connecticut, although prior to that time they had given no intimation of any other intention than to remain on both tickets.

What is also regarded as highly significant is the fact that the only other Republican on the Citizens' ticket—Clifford B. Wilson, whom both parties have nominated for lieutenant governor—has not withdrawn, and does not appear to have any such action in view. It is significant because Wilson represents the John T. King branch of the G. O. P., and is not dominated by Boss Rory-back and his clique, as Perry and Healey are generally supposed to be. Threats of reprisal could have had no effect upon Wilson, because he succeeded in landing the Republican nomination in spite of the avowed determination of the newly established triumvirate—Roraback, Healey and Ullman—to keep him off the ticket and thus strike a blow at King.

And now the legality of their withdrawal is seriously questioned, for it is generally contended by persons who make a study of such matters that inasmuch as their names have already been placed upon the soldiers' ballots and probably been voted upon, it is too late now for them to back down and leave the Citizens' party without candidates, since none can be substituted at this late date.

And since it is claimed that their resignation is illegal, the question may accept the withdrawal of their names. Indeed, he has been asked for an opinion on this matter by the Citizens' party leaders, but has as yet failed to give any. He has written the Citizens' organization, in turn, asking a more specific statement of what grounds they allege as the basis for their contention, and is yet to be answered.

According to the Citizens' organization, the Republican rulers realize what the new party is going to prove a powerful factor in deciding the outcome of the election, and fear that its influence may elect Spillacy governor. For this reason they do not wish their candidates to endorse the Democratic nominees in this way. They don't want Republican candidates drawing votes from the straight ticket to an independent ticket, as there would be from people who might want Healey or Perry or Wilson, or all three, without desiring to elect the rest of the Republicans.

## ADMINISTRATOR SETS SUGAR PRICE

Although the food administration made the announcement from its Hartford office several weeks ago that the two and the five-pound sugar purchase rule had been modified, inquiries are still being made by retailers about the new rule. Robert Seville, Connecticut Food Administrator, said today that the rule was exactly as published by Connecticut newspapers and that it provided some relief for the retailers who will no longer be confined to two-pound sales but may sell a family a week's supply of sugar, but always on the basis of two pounds per month per member of the family. Mr. Seville also said that the new sugar, carrying a higher cost, had not yet made its appearance in Connecticut to any extent and that when it did eleven cents would be the maximum price for the highest freight point in Connecticut. Under the latest regulations retailers will be expected to give consumers the benefit of fractional cents, and although one pound of sugar in Hartford soon may very properly cost eleven cents, five pounds should be sold for about fifty-two or fifty-seven cents.

Norwalk, Conn., Oct. 5.—Forty new cases of Spanish influenza have been reported in this city yesterday, making a total of 120 cases in all. The epidemic has shown a startling increase and it is expected that further drastic measures will be taken by the local health department to stay its spread.

It is thought that the health department will issue orders today or tomorrow for the closing of all schools, churches, theatres and all other places of public assemblage.

## INFLUENZA ON GAIN IN NORWALK

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## GERMAN DEFEAT IN AFRICA

Paris, Oct. 5.—Portuguese forces in Africa, in conjunction with the British, have thrown the remaining German troops in German East Africa back across the Rovuma river, according to the Petit Parisien. The Rovuma runs from the region of Lake Nyassa to the Indian Ocean and forms the boundary line between German and Portuguese East Africa.

The Germans were compelled to abandon a great quantity of materiel and lost numerous men in prisoner.

## FERDINAND ABDICATES IN FAVOR OF PRINCE BORIS

New King Has Already Assumed Reins of Office, Says Report—Seems Little Reason to Doubt Statement—Ferdinand's Popularity Waned.

Copenhagen, Oct. 5.—The official Austrian correspondence bureau has given out a despatch from Sofia, dated Friday, stating that King Ferdinand of Bulgaria abdicated on Thursday in favor of Crown Prince Boris. The new King, it is declared already has assumed the reins of office.

The abdication of King Ferdinand was reported in Vienna advices yesterday received by way of Switzerland and Paris. There seems little reason to doubt the correctness of the statement. King Ferdinand's popularity with his people has been waning rapidly since it became apparent to Bulgarians that he had acted grievously in plunging the country into war on the side of the Teutonic powers. Advances from the capital had indicated that before the armistice with the entente was signed King Ferdinand was trembling for his throne and feared that a revolution might upset the whole dynasty.

The attitude of Prince Boris toward the two groups of belligerents has not been definitely indicated, but the advices from Sofia have shown the Bulgarian government so thoroughly committed to the plan of making peace with the entente that it seems highly unlikely any change in the titular head of the state would affect the policy of the Bulgarian leaders who are engaged in carrying out the peace.

## GEN. HUTCHINS RETURNS HOME

Washington, Oct. 5.—The return to this country of Brig. General Henry Hutchins, formerly with the Texas National Guard troops in France, was announced by General March, who said General Pershing had asked permission to send this officer home. The reason for the transfer was not announced. General March added that orders for General Hutchins' discharge from the service had not yet been issued.

## NO OVERTURES FROM HOLLAND

The Hague, Oct. 5.—Holland had not invited the Belgians to negotiate for peace, it was declared by the Foreign office today. There is not a word of truth in the statement of the Berlin Tageblatt that effect the official announcement.